

EBRU EVCEN

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EDUCATION

University of California San Diego, San Diego, United States 2020 - June 2026 (expected)
Ph.D. in Linguistics

Committee: David Barner, Caren Walker, Ivano Caponigro, Leon Bergen

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey 2016-2019
M.A. in English Language Teaching
Thesis title: Processing of Conditional Constructions in Turkish L2 speakers of English

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey 2012-2016
B.A. in English Language Teaching

PUBLICATIONS

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (in prep). Preschoolers interpret disjunction exclusively.

Evcen, E., & Barner, D. (in prep). Can 3-year-olds reason about multiple possibilities? Evidence from free choice inferences

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (under review). Conditional reasoning in children: The role of context and alternatives.

Özge-Sarisoğlu, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (under revised review). Pronoun resolution in Turkish: The interplay of referential form, word order and implicit causality

PUBLICATIONS

Evcen, E., Bale, A. & Barner, D. (in press). Conditional inference and access to alternatives: The role of QUD and speaker knowledge in conditional perfection. *Journal of Semantics*

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Already perfect: Language users access the pragmatic meanings of conditionals first. *Open Mind*, 9, 1098–1120.

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Preschoolers compute literal and pragmatic meanings of conditionals with contextual support. *Peer-reviewed proceedings paper in *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Özge-Sarisoğlu, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2025). Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs. *Peer-reviewed proceedings paper in *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Yeter, Ö., Evcen, E., Rabagliati, H. & Özge, D. (2024). Understanding cognitive and language development in refugees: Evidence from displaced Syrian children in Turkey. *Cognitive Development*, 69, 101412.

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2024). Two Negatives Make a Positive: Reducing Referential Uncertainty through Negation and Order Reversal Eases Processing in Counterfactuals. *Peer-reviewed proceedings paper in *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46.

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Making the Question Under Discussion explicit shifts counterfactual interpretation. *Peer-reviewed proceedings paper in *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44.

Özge, D. & Evcen, E. (2020). Referential form, word order and emotional valence in Turkish pronoun resolution. In U. Özge and D. Zeyrek (eds.), *Turkish Discourse, Structure and Meaning*. Trends in Linguistics Series, De Gruyter Publishing.

PRESENTATIONS

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Spontaneous interpretation of disjunction in preschoolers: One is preferred, both are fine. Poster at the 49th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 50), November 2025, Boston, MA, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Preschoolers compute literal and pragmatic meanings of conditionals with contextual support. Poster at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2025), July 2025, San Francisco, CA, United States

Sarışoy, D., Evcen, E. & Hartshorne, J. (2025) Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs. Poster at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2025), July 2025, San Francisco, CA, United States

Evcen, E. Bale, A. & Barner, D. (2025). Which alternatives matter? The role of QUD and speaker knowledge in conditionals. Poster at the 35th Semantic and Linguistic Theory (SALT 35), May 2025, Boston, MA, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2024). Conditionally literal: Exploring conditional reasoning in children. Talk at the 49th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 49), November 2024, Boston, MA, United States

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Two negatives make a positive: Reducing referential uncertainty through negation and order reversal eases processing in counterfactuals. Virtual poster at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2024), July, 2024, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2024). Already Perfect: Conditional Statements. Poster at Experiments in Linguistics Meaning 3 (ELM 3), June 2024, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2024). Conditional inferences are derived without delay. Poster at the 6th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 6), January 2024, Stanford University, CA, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2023). Time course of conditional inferences. Poster at the 10th biennial meeting of Experimental Pragmatics (XPRAG 10), September 2023, Université Paris Cité – CNRS, Paris, France

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Negation facilitates comprehension of English counterfactuals. Short talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 28), September, 2022, University of York, United Kingdom.

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Making the Question Under Discussion explicit shifts counterfactual interpretation. Short talk at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2022), July, 2022, Toronto, Canada.

Evcen, E. & Özge, D. (2022). Pronoun resolution in Turkish Transfer-of-possession verbs: Evidence from comprehension and production. Talk at the 3rd Cologne Ankara Discourse Meeting (CADiM3), July 2022, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2022). Implicit causality biases in Turkish psychological state events. Talk at the 3rd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL3), June, 2022, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2021). The Consideration of Alternatives During Incremental Comprehension of Counterfactuals. Short talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 27), September, 2021, Université de Paris, France.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2020). Referential form, word order and emotional valence in Turkish pronoun resolution. Poster at the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY), March, 2020, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, United States

Evcen, E., Özge, U. & Özge, D. (2019). Turkish *unless* is not biconditional unless the pragmatic context allows it. Poster at the 8th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG), June 2019, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.**, Kesici, A. & Köse, E. (2018). How do Turkish speakers interpret pronouns in Transfer-of-Possession contexts? Talk at the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL14), October, 2018, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.**, Kesici, A. & Köse, E. (2018). How do Turkish speakers interpret pronouns in Transfer-of-Possession contexts? Talk at the 2nd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL2), July, 2018, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

TEACHING

Graduate Teaching Consultant

Summer 2024 - Present

Engaged Teaching Hub, Teaching & Learning Commons, UC San Diego

Introduction to College Teaching: Foundations of Equitable Teaching (Fall 2024, Winter 2025, Fall 2025)

Advanced College Teaching: Course Design (Winter 2026)

Communication for Teaching (Spring 2025)

Instructor of Record

Summer 2024

Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego

LIGN 170: Psycholinguistics: Experimental Approaches to Language and Cognition

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2020 - 2024

Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego

LIGN 130: Semantics (Spring 2024) (2 sections)

LIGN 121: Syntax I (Winter 2024) (2 sections)

LIGN 101: Introduction to Linguistics (Winter 2020; Fall 2021; Spring 2021; Fall 2022; Winter 2022; Spring 2022; Fall 2023) (2 sections)

LIGN 8: Languages and Cultures of America (Fall 2020; Winter 2021)

Language Instructor

2016 - 2020

Department of Foreign Languages, TOBB University of Economics and Technology

Mentorship

UC San Diego

Ezgi Bayraktaroglu (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2025 - Present
Kayla Moreno (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2025 - Present
Grace Carlson (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2025 - Present
Jessica Nieblas (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2024 - Spring 2025
Raphael Dupa (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Spring 2024 - Spring 2025
Katherine Jamison (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Spring 2025
Victoria Hilke (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2024
Vaidehi Bhavaraju (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Spring 2024
Maansi Narain (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Spring 2024
Priscilla Lin (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Winter 2024
Ajax Asana (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Spring 2022 - Fall 2023
Piper Mahn (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2023
Miguel Mejia (Postbac Research Assistant)	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021
Lea Zaric (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Analysis & Tools: R/RStudio and Quarto (statistical modeling, reproducible workflows, data visualization), Python (working knowledge), PsychoPy, PCIBex, Praat, GitHub, L^AT_EX
Languages: Turkish (native), English (bilingual fluency), Southern Uzbek (fieldwork)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Grants

Academic Senate General Campus Research Grant, UC San Diego March 2023
The Nature of Conditional Inferences (PI: David Barner) (\$12,000)

Fellowships

Anti-racist and Inclusive Pedagogy Fellowship, UC San Diego	Summer 2024 (\$500)
Summer Graduate Teaching Scholars Fellowship, UC San Diego	Summer 2024 (\$500)
National Scholarship Program for MA Students, Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)	2016–2019 (\$9,000)
Erasmus+ Grant for the Student Exchange Program, Turkish National Agency and European Union	2015 (\$2,000)

Awards

GPSA Travel Award, UC San Diego	November 2025 (\$400)
Distinguished Achievement in Service, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego	2024-2025
GPSA Travel Award, UC San Diego	September 2023 (\$300)
Linguistics Department Travel Award, UC San Diego	Summer 2023 (\$750)
TA Excellence Award, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego	2022-2023

SERVICE

Institutional Service

Organizing Committee Member, California Meetings on Psycholinguistics (CAMP7), UC San Diego
Member, External Relations Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics
Editor, San Diego Linguistics Paper, UC San Diego
Member, Open House and Admissions Committee, UC San Diego Linguistics

Ad-Hoc Reviews

Journal of Semantics; Language and Linguistic Compass; Cognitive Science Society Proceedings

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Language and Development Lab , UC San Diego	2021–Present
PI: David Barner, Department of Psychology	
Language Comprehension Lab , formerly at UC San Diego; now at CEU	2020–2022
PI: Eva Wittenberg, Department of Cognitive Science	
SFB 1252 Prominence in Language , University of Cologne	June–July 2022
PI: Klaus von Heusinger, Department of Linguistics	
Guest in C04: Conceptual and referential activation in discourse	
Language and Cognitive Development Lab , Middle East Technical University	2017–2019
PI: Duygu Özge, Department of English Language Teaching	
Language and Communication Development Lab , Koç University	June–August 2016
PI: Aylin Kuntay, Department of Psychology; Summer Undergraduate Research Program (KUSRП)	

SUMMER SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATION

Student-Centered College Teaching & Course Design	March 2024
UC San Diego	
Seventh Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology , Potsdam, Germany	September 2023
Advanced methods in frequentist statistics with Julia	
Göttingen Fall School in Linguistics: Anaphora and Presuppositions	August 2021
University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany	
Study Abroad , Keele University, Staffordshire, United Kingdom	January–June 2015
TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)	